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Sharon plans two new major highways in territories

DAVID HARRIS

CONSTRUCTION of two new roads in the territories will begin before the end of the year, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon announced yesterday.

The first project will link Ben-Sbemen, near Ben-Gurion Airport, with Atarot Airport, just north of Jerusalem.

Initially, the Public Works Department will construct a 10-kilometer divided highway between Givat Ze'ev and Atarot, at a cost of some NIS 100 million. The road will eventually be linked with Jerusalem's Route 4, currently under construction, and will serve as another entrance to the city.

The second road will extend Route 5 eastward from Rosh Ha'ayin to Ariel, via Elkana. The 20-km. road, which will cost NIS 70m., will replace the existing narrow, winding road, on which there have been several serious accidents. This highway will link up with the new Trans-Israel Highway at the Kesseru Interchange.

The statutory process for construction of the two projects was completed some time ago, and some initial work on Route 5 was done four years ago.

The PWD, which is now part of the National Infrastructure Ministry, is waiting to hear if it will receive the funding from the government to begin the tender process.

"We are already able to begin work," said PWD spokesman Meir Gazit. "We hope to get the budget very soon."

The plans were roundly condemned by MK Avraham Shohat, who described them as "investments for political ends."

"The writing is on the wall," he said. "This government will cause a retreat from the Negev and Galilee and will put its resources once again into Judea and Samaria. The carnivore is starting afresh. This step has deep political significance with destructive budgetary implications."

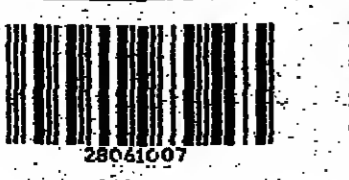
Liat Collins adds: Environment Ministry Director-General Nehama Ronen said she would meet with representatives of the PWD and the National Infrastructure Ministry to hear about road building plans in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza.

Ronen stressed the importance of widening existing roads rather than building new ones, and of ensuring the least possible damage to the environment. She noted the work would be taking place in environmentally sensitive areas.

Gal Friedman captures bronze

GAL Friedman won Israel's first 1996 Olympic medal yesterday by capturing the bronze in the Mistral windsurfing event. The 21-year-old held off a challenge by New Zealand's Aaron McIntosh to become the country's third-ever medal winner, joining 1992 judokas Yael Arad (silver) and Oren Smadja (bronze).

Full Olympics story Page 10



An archeologist holds a 3,200-year-old bronze god figurine, the largest of its kind ever found. It was unearthed during the dig at Tel Hatzor.

Archeologists find clue to Canaanite kingdom archives

THE discovery in recent weeks of four cuneiform tablets at Hatzor may point to the location of one of the most sought-after archeological treasures in the country — the royal archives of the great Canaanite kingdom that dominated the North in the centuries preceding the arrival of the Israelites.

Prof. Amnon Ben-Tor, who is this week completing his seventh season of excavations at Hatzor, told a press conference

ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

yesterday that the 400-year-span separating two of the cuneiform tablets from the other two may point to two separate archives — one from the Middle Bronze Age (2000 TO 1600 BCE) and one from the Late Bronze Age (1600-1200 BCE).

"We have not found the archives," stressed Ben-Tor, rebutting press reports over the weekend that they had been

found. "But we found indications of the existence of two archives."

The tablets were found inside the royal palace, atop the tel where the royal archives would be expected to be.

In past years, four other cuneiform tablets were found scattered on the tel. Ben-Tor said that he had decided not to press in his search for the archive despite its apparent proximity, since the excavation must end as planned this week.

Settlers optimistic after meeting PM

SETTLEMENT leaders emerged optimistic from their first meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday, despite his failure to make any concrete promises.

However, most are reserving final judgment until they see whether his words will be followed by deeds.

More than 20 members of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea and Samaria attended the hour-long meeting, including leaders of several secular settlements who announced last week that they were quitting the council. The latter were brought back to the fold by the flat refusal of Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, to grant them a separate meeting.

Council members raised a number of issues of concern to them:

- Lifting the building freeze imposed by the previous government;
- Expanding existing settlements — including the Jewish community in Hebron — and the construction of new ones;
- Preventing an IDF redeployment in Hebron;
- Stopping illegal Arab building in the territories;
- Permitting caravans to be moved freely from one settlement to another;
- Finishing the bypass roads;
- Canceling the administrative orders which restrict the movements of right-wing Jewish activists;
- Holding Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat to the agreements he has signed.

EVELYN GORDON

"For me, this is the beginning of a period — after four very difficult years of discrimination and deprivation — in which not only will the [discrimination] be rectified, but there will be significant growth," said council chairman Pinchas Wallerstein afterward.

Others, however, were more cautious.

"Right now I'm in a waiting stance," Kiryat Arba Mayor Zvi Katzover said. "After the prime minister has studied the matter, then I'll be able to say whether I'm disappointed or happy."

Council spokesman Yehiel Leiter said the group emerged from the meeting fairly confident that the building freeze, at least, would be lifted soon.

In contrast, he said, the council was somewhat disappointed by Netanyahu's stand on redeployment in Hebron: That he is committed to honoring all agreements signed by the previous government, if Arafat honors his side.

Right now, Arafat is still in flagrant violation of certain parts of the agreement, Leiter noted.

However, Netanyahu is, in principle, willing to leave if these violations are fixed, he said.

Settlement leaders noted that while Netanyahu made no concrete promises, he did give one concrete piece of advice: Loud declarations to the press can sometimes sabotage the actual implementation of plans.

Peace Now, meanwhile, charged that despite the lack of concrete promises, the government is already working to increase the settlements — for instance, via National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's decision to build a new road there.

Central bank lowers key rate

Netanyahu: I have full faith in Frenkel

THE Bank of Israel yesterday trimmed its key lending rate by 70 basis points to 16.3 percent, citing increasing indications of stabilizing money supply and reduced inflationary expectations.

The interest rate reduction — the first after eight months of a steadfast and highly contentious tight-money policy led by Governor Jacob Frenkel — was met with mixed feelings among Frenkel's rivals, and welcomed by Tel Aviv's financial markets.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the cut reflected indications that the battle against inflation is bearing fruit. Netanyahu dismissed demands by various business circles that Frenkel's recently approved appointment for a second five-year term be reconsidered, and said he has "full faith" in Frenkel.

Frenkel himself was cautious in his assessment of his long-standing battle against inflation. "Veteran warriors know there is no bigger danger than declaring victory prematurely," he said.

He added it would be a mistake to see the cut as a "U-turn," saying it merely reflects the state of inflationary pressures at a given time.

There is a good chance now that inflation for the remainder of this year will be lower than the 15% annual rate that prevailed during the first seven months of the year, but should the indicators take a different course, rates might have to be raised again, he said.

Meanwhile, the leading commercial banks said they will reduce the prime rate to 17.8%, from 18.5%, beginning on

GALIT LIPKIS BECK, EVELYN GORDON, and Jerusalem Post Staff

Thursday. No change was announced in the rest of the components. In keeping with this decision, the maximum interest on approved credit at the banks will be 22.3% and the interest on excess credit will be 23.8% at Bank Leumi, First International Bank, and United Mizrahi Bank, 23.6% at Discount, and 23.4% at Bank Hapoalim.

On the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, the Two-Sided Index jumped by 3.74%, while turnover reached NIS 100 million. However, traders said yesterday's improved results may also reflect a technical correction after 11 days of continuous declines.

The debt market also picked up, especially shekel-linked bonds, which registered purchase orders of NIS 115m., while Treasury bills attracted orders of NIS 313m. Traders said the Bank of Israel's introduction of the "security net" mechanism, in which the central bank buys surplus state bonds, has helped boost the market.

"The market's main problem remains confidence," said Dan Kivi, a broker for Bank Otzar Hahayal. "It takes only a few minutes to destroy market confidence, but building it takes time."

The Manufacturers Association, which has led the business lobby for cheaper money and has frequently attacked Frenkel personally, said the rate cut was insufficient and should have been 3%.

Histadrut Chairman Amir Perez welcomed the cut and said

he hopes the next cost-of-living index is low enough to allow the central bank a further reduction in the price of credit.

In the Knesset, coalition members welcomed the cut. Knesset Finance Committee chairman Avraham Ravitz said the fact that the cut is slightly deeper than the predicted 0.5% would give an important psychological boost to the market.

"We're going in the right direction," he said. "From the point of view of the amount of money flowing into the market, this is insufficient, but from the point of view of psychology, it will do the job."

Silvan Shalom (Likud), who heads the coalition on the committee, also praised the move, saying it will remind investors that interest rates, just like stock prices, can fall as well as rise.

The next step, Shalom said, is to implement budget cuts, which would lower inflation and enable further rate cuts. The Finance Committee is to discuss NIS 350 million in planned cuts for 1996 today, and Shalom said he expects these to pass easily.

"But unlike the 1996 cuts, which will pass tomorrow with the support of all coalition members, there is great opposition among coalition members to the [NIS 4.9 billion] cut planned for 1997," he warned.

In contrast, MK Avraham Shohat, who heads the opposition on the committee, said the cut was too slim to repair the "enormous damage" which he charged Frenkel's previous 1.5% rate hike had caused.

"But apparently, the governor understood the gravity of his error, and tried to rectify it this month," he said.

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Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein (far left) visits a group of children brought here from Chernobyl at Kfar Habad yesterday. (Yitzhak Eshran/Scoop 80)

Kedmi: Publicity harms CIS orphan aliyah

PUBLICITY regarding a secret project to bring orphaned children here from the CIS has placed the future of the program in doubt, Ya'acov Kedmi, head of the Prime Minister's Office Liaison Bureau (Na'ivy) reportedly told a meeting of the Knesset's Immigration and Absorption Committee yesterday.

LIAT COLLINS

Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal noted that the authorities in the CIS had demanded secrecy as a condition for the project. She said the future of the project is now in doubt, but she would do her best to ensure it continues.

The project, carried out by Na'ivy and the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry, was revealed in *Ha'aretz* last Wednesday, in a story that claimed some of the children had been brought without consent and were not being adequately provided for here. So far, 116 children under 15 have been brought here as part of the project, which has been running for two-and-a-half years. The children are all eligible for Israeli citizenship under the Law of Return and are either orphans or from dysfunctional families.

"We have heard of the conditions these children lived in there. As adults, they could say they want to come to Israel, but what can a six-year old who is living in the streets do? One child was found on the streets having spent three days next to his mother's body. Should we have asked him: 'Do you want to exercise your right to come to Israel?' I'll do everything to make sure that this child has a better life," Blumenthal said.

Most of the children are now in state-run boarding schools.

Ministry officials rejected claims that the children are not receiving adequate health care and insisted that everything about the project was completely legal.

MK's Sofia Landver (Labor) and Marina Solodkin (Yisrael Ba'aliya), both originally from the former Soviet Union, stressed the poor physical, social, and psychological conditions the children suffered in the CIS. Landver demanded legal action against those responsible for publishing the story and endangering the project.

MK Michael Kleiner (Likud) demanded that sensitive stories of immigration projects be censored. Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, on the other hand, said the secrecy is in itself detrimental, as such stories almost inevitably leak out and the consequences are worse than if the project had been run openly.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Yediot' publisher questioned again by police

Yediot Aharonot publisher Arnon Mozes was questioned further yesterday by police in connection with the media wiretapping case. The paper's building manager, Haim Rosenberg, was also summoned for questioning, after being released from house arrest on Sunday. The two were questioned intensively last week. Mozes is suspected of commissioning, via Rosenberg and others, taps on phones and faxes. Rosenberg is also suspected of suborning witnesses and disrupting the police investigation. Mozes was first questioned last year, but his investigation was put on hold until corroborating evidence could be obtained. *Raine Marcus*

Channel 2 boosts signal in Jerusalem

Thousands of Jerusalemites, who until now could only get Channel 2 broadcasts via the cable companies, can now get direct reception, with the inauguration of the Second Television and Radio Authority's (STRA) newest transmitter atop the Shalom Hotel. The city center, Mevasseret Zion, and southern neighborhoods can receive the transmissions on channel 36. Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and STRA general manager Nahman Shai will officially launch the new transmitter in a ceremony today. *Helen Kaye*

Dell: Schools should pay for copied material

Education Ministry Director-General Benzion Dell has instructed schools and local councils not to collect money from pupils for copied material. He noted that it has been ministry policy for the past two years to pay for such materials. Dell said that the ministry would transfer the funds this week to the local councils and that the money would soon reach the schools. *Tim*

Levy-Agron honored by Education Ministry

Dance pioneer Hassia Levy-Agron has been named the first recipient of the Education Minister's Prize for Life Achievement in Dance. A seventh-generation Jerusalemite, Levy-Agron studied dance with Gertrude Kraus and Martha Graham, among others. She established and heads the dance faculty of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance and was named professor of dance in 1978. *Helen Kaye*

Ya'acov Alperon returns to prison

Ya'acov Alperon, who was released on parole from Sharon Prison last Thursday, returned yesterday to serve two-and-a-half more years. The High Court of Justice ruled on Sunday that the parole board had erred in releasing him, given his lengthy criminal record. He will be allowed to reapply for parole in one year. *Tim*

Army ordered to justify benefit refusal

The High Court of Justice has given the IDF 45 days to justify its refusal to grant the homosexual lover of a deceased officer the benefits normally given families to enable them to memorialize their loved ones. The show-cause order was issued in response to a petition by Adir Steiner, who lived with Col. Doron Meisel for seven years, until the latter's death in 1991. *Evelyn Gordon*

Klezmer festival opens in Safed

Dozens of klezmer artists from Israel and abroad gathered in Safed yesterday for the opening of the Ninth Annual Klezmer Festival. The festival will be accompanied by events for children and a food fest featuring the menus of different ethnic groups. Thousands are expected to attend the three-day event. All entrances to Safed will be closed to private vehicles as of 5 p.m. and public transportation will be provided to the events. *Tim*

Heavy security planned for Arad Festival

RAINE MARCUS

SOME 1,000 policemen, Civil Guard volunteers, and other security personnel will ensure maximum safety for the thousands expected to attend this year's Arad Festival, Negev police chief Dep.-Cmdr. Dudi Cohen said yesterday. "We have learned all the lessons, one by one, and studied all the conclusions reached by committees after last year's disaster," said Cohen. The festival is scheduled for next Tuesday through Thursday.

Last year, three teenagers were killed during a stampede at one of the festival's concerts. Following the tragedy, several police officers resigned or were transferred, and various committees were set up to examine the circumstances of the incident. Police questioned scores of people, including organizers, impresarios, and security companies, but no charges have been brought.

Minor blast damages NYC synagogue

**MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK**

A SMALL device, possibly potent firecrackers, exploded in front of a Queens synagogue Saturday night, blasting a hole in the building's heavy wooden doors, New York newspapers reported yesterday. No one was injured.

Police had no suspects yesterday, and had not classified the incident at the Queensboro Hill Jewish Center as a bias crime, according to newspaper accounts.

The synagogue has not received any threats. But the center has been vandalized several times in the last few years, the newspapers reported.

Vandals have thrown rocks through windows of an adjoining building that houses a kindergarten, have painted graffiti on walls, and previously entered the building after breaking the locks on the same doors damaged Saturday night.

Jordanian airline denied Amman-Haifa route

HAIM SHAPIRO

TRANSPORT Minister Yitzhak Levy yesterday rejected Royal Jordanian Airline's request to fly between Haifa and Amman.

The airline has been pressing to fly to Haifa and to begin flights between Ben-Gurion Airport and Akaba. Levy said, however, that he has no intention of adding any flights between Israel and Jordan, particularly since flights between Ben-Gurion and Amman are not fully booked.

Levy also said that Civil Aviation Authority head Menahem Sharon is trying to find a solution to the issue of flight routes. At present, Royal

Jordanian is forced to land from the west, thus tripling its flying time.

Meanwhile, the ministry has altered its position on the projected joint Israeli-Jordanian airport that is to serve both Eilat and Akaba. In the past, the ministry had given such a facility its unqualified approval, but it now says that the joint airport should not replace the Eilat Airport.

The ministry now proposes that the joint airport have its airfield in Jordan and two terminals, one in each country, with the Israeli ter-

minal serving international flights destined for Eilat. Local flights, however, would continue to land in Eilat itself.

In a related matter, the ministry noted that the bus route between Tel Aviv and Amman has proved a resounding success, with full buses on Sunday and Thursday and almost-full buses on other days. Given this, the Dan bus cooperative, which has the concession, has decided to use larger and more luxurious vehicles on the route.

According to the ministry, most of the passengers are Israeli Jews taking a short vacation in Jordan or Israeli Arabs visiting family.

Judge stops construction on Haifa project

LIAT COLLINS

A HAIFA District Court judge yesterday issued a stop-work order against the construction of the Carmel Beach Towers luxury apartment complex. The decision followed a suit filed by the Israel Union for Environmental Defense (IUED), against the Haifa planning and construction commission and the project's developers.

IUED claimed the multi-tower complex is being built in violation of building permits received by the developers, which allow for limited construction of tourism facilities, whereas the project includes the construction of several high-rise towers being sold as condominiums.

The towers will block the view of the Mediterranean and violate beach conservation statutes by being too close to the shore, the IUED said.

Judge Dan Bein handed down a stop-work order which will be in effect until the final decision on the suit. He ruled that all work on the complex must stop, except on the first tower, which is near completion.

In his decision, Bein wrote that the question of whether the construction is in accordance with the approved plan or radically different is

a serious one which must be decided by the court. He added that it appears that there is merit to the IUED's claim.

Conservationists praised the decision, noting it is the first time construction has been halted on such a large project.

"The court's decision is an important message to the violators of environmental laws," said IUED director Daniel Fisch.

Sammy Chayen, a spokesman for the organization, called on the Haifa City Council "not to miss the fantastic opportunity to try and mend the harm to the Carmel Beach by rezoning the area."

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The end of the age of innocence has arrived

JAMES LANGTON
NEW YORK

ACROSS America the Stars and Stripes were at half mast once more. It has barely risen since Easter.
The first anniversary of the Oklahoma bombing, the attack on the barracks in Doha, the loss of TWA flight 800, and now the dead and injured in Atlanta.
The Olympic Games was to have been a chance to wave the flag in its proper place: at the head of the pole, on top of the world. The American people heralded each golden victory last week with a sense of triumphalism that at times seemed to border on the hysterical.
Perhaps it was relief that all was well with the world, that Team USA was a winner once more. The nightmare of international terrorism could be forgotten for the glories of the Dream Team.
The authorities had nicknamed Atlanta "Fort Sport", but the events of the past 12 days have

shown that America is no longer a fortress. The growing belief that the loss of TWA 800 was caused by a bomb planted at Kennedy Airport and the explosion in Centennial Park Saturday show that this is a country of 250 million potential targets.
Where is safe in America now? So long free from the perils of other lands, its citizens woke up Saturday with a campaign of terror on their doorstep. They are as unused to being the victims as they are to losing. Both are hard to comprehend.
It will take some getting used to. Somehow the attack on the Olympics establishes a pattern, a routine of violence that is familiar elsewhere. The determination of officials to carry on the Games as usual cannot conceal that the future must be business as usual.
Where next? The final of the baseball World Series this

autumn? The Super Bowl next January? Disneyworld? The Statue of Liberty? Bloomingdale and Central Park? There are many targets for the potential terrorist, more symbols of the American way of life than just the White House.
Already President Clinton has warned that internal airport security will be stepped up and that this will mean longer queues and more expensive air fares. But a metal detector to meet Mickey Mouse? And the only thing most American shops want to know about the contents of their customers' bags is the number on their credit cards.
Atlanta thought it was prepared. There were bomb squads at every site and a system of passes and accreditation so ruthlessly effective that at times it almost threatened to paralyse the Games. But the rock concert which was the target of the bombers was outside

the inner ring of steel, a free event for the ordinary fan to enjoy, to dance and swap pin badges.
Even though a security guard spotted the knapsack with the device within minutes, even though police had already begun to clear the area, it was already too late. As London and Belfast have long discovered, you only identify your loopholes by bitter experience.
America fears terrorism, but has not lived with it. Faced with the prospect of the IRA in the cities of Britain, the tourists take off their Burberry raincoats and stay in Kansas. The first rattle of shot in the Gulf War was enough to frighten the Hollywood tough guys from the Cannes film festival.
Many Americans do not venture abroad at all, where the food is

funny and the air conditioning never works. They prefer to experience the world second-hand. They can walk the Great Wall of China in Florida, see the Cathedral of Notre Dame while munching popcorn and slurping Coke at their local cinema.
The sense of superiority that romanticises the IRA as freedom fighters and pours dollars into Derry may seem less certain. America is learning the lesson of cause and effect, particularly in Israel. Foreign adventures can sometimes bring back unwanted souvenirs.
Somewhere America always seemed safe, an island in an uncomfortable world. From time to time - two world wars; Korea, Bosnia - it can ride out like John Wayne, but always return to shut the gates of the fortress.
Such disasters which befall its citizens are mostly acts of God or nature; tornadoes, hurricanes,

blizzards and floods. Even the other hazards were home-grown - the car and the air crash, the fight to bear arms. A reporter interviewing doctors at the hospital, where many of the bomb victims were taken was told that the casualty toll was no worse than for a typical Friday night.
These things are part of life. Terrorism is not. And the American brand seems to be a particularly virulent strain. At least the British Government knows that the IRA wants a united Ireland when it lays waste a Manchester shopping centre. It can seek to negotiate, to move on from the gun to the ballot box. Likewise ETA and the Tamil Tigers may be mindless, but not motiveless.
The threat to America is still nameless and faceless. Probably it is revenge. No one has yet claimed responsibility for Atlanta nor TWA 800. The identity of the

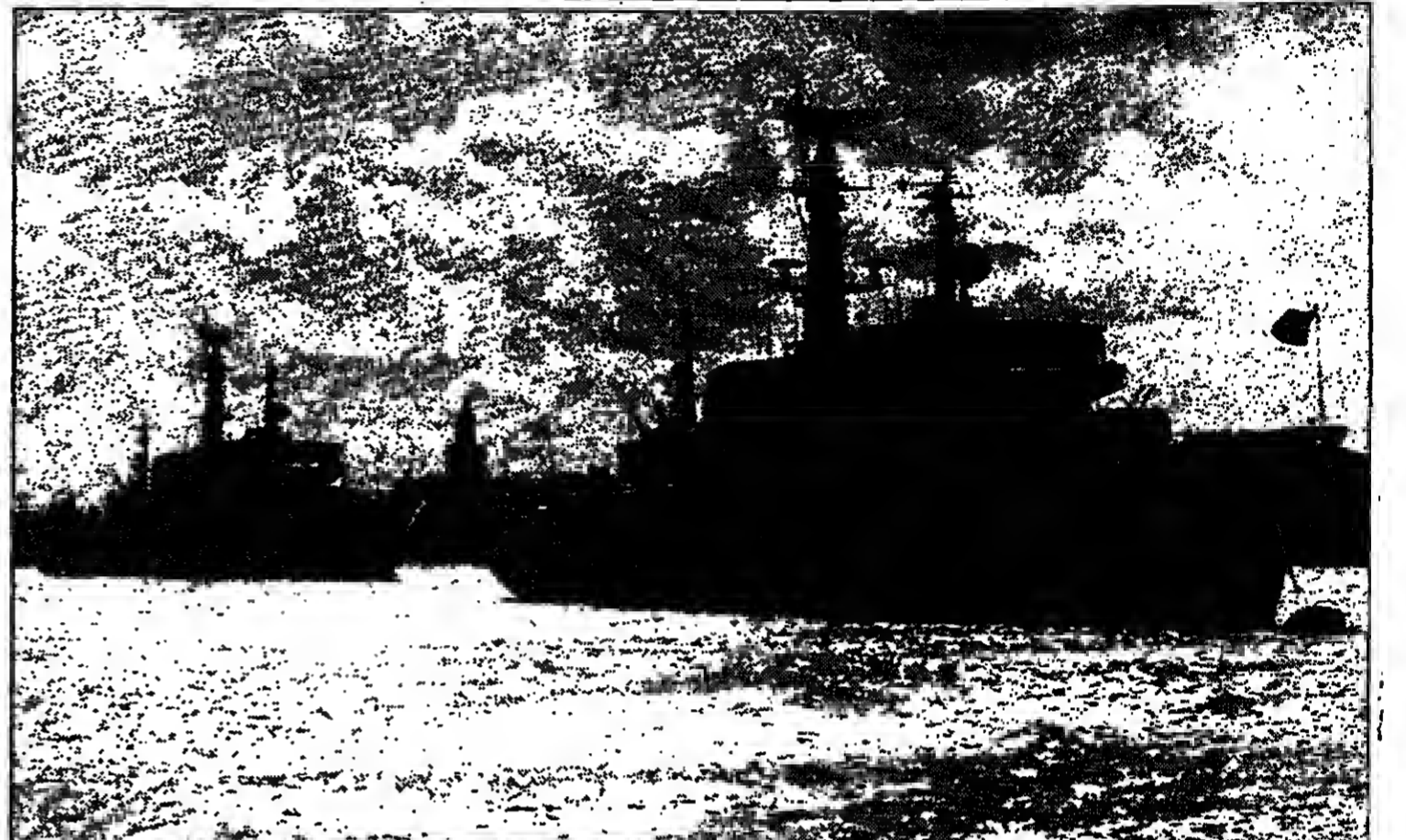
World Trade and Oklahoma City bombers was known only because they were caught, the result of good detective work and luck.
America is likely to need a great deal more of both, although prevention is more likely than cure. Suspicion usually falls on the radical Islamic world. And while far-right fanatics and millenarians are also now on the list, it should be remembered that the Unabomber was neither. Finding those responsible will not be easy. This is a nation of foreigners as much as it is of nift cases.
Witnesses to the explosion at the Games seemed confused by the flash and noise, the rapidly fading plume of smoke. Some thought it was a pyrotechnic stunt to end the rock concert. Others that it was fireworks or lightning. No one is likely to make the same mistake next time.
An age of innocence is over.
(Daily Telegraph)

TWA crash investigators seek metal to prove bomb theory

PAT MILTON
EAST MORICHES, New York

INVESTIGATORS say a key piece of metal could prove a theory that TWA Flight 800 was destroyed by a bomb in the front cargo section that blew off the cockpit and first-class cabin.
A source close to the investigation said a piece of the plane's aluminium coating close to the explosion would probably tell what caused the blast and whether the metal was pierced from the inside - a bomb, or the outside - a missile.
The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the piece of metal was needed in order to declare the crash a crime.
The search was focused on a debris field 30 m below the Atlantic Ocean, where the first wreckage settled, including first-class seats and the front landing gear.
As divers searched the ocean floor Sunday, James Kallstrom, the FBI agent in charge, said the piece of metal "could be the next piece the Navy turns over to us. We hope which pieces we want. ... We hope in the next 24 hours we will get something."
Searchers were working around the clock.

103," which exploded over Scotland in 1988 after a terrorist bomb went off in a cargo hold.
The electrical equipment of the 747 is located just ahead of the front cargo bay, which could explain why the cockpit voice recorder and the flight data recorder were cut off abruptly without any sign of trouble 11 1/2 minutes after the jetliner left Kennedy Airport in New York City.
Radar continued to track the plane, or a portion of it, through the sky for some seconds after the recorders shut down.
The source would not say what new evidence might have turned up to focus investigators on the bomb theory.
No physical evidence - such as chemical residue from explosives on airline debris - has been found to confirm suspicions of sabotage.
The Pirouette, one of two primary search and salvage vessels, was ready to move a mile and a half to the southwest and anchor over the area where the first debris landed.
The Navy said another salvage ship, the Grapple, was en route to the same area and should be ready to lift wreckage by today. (AP)



Russian warships seen moored on the River Neva in St. Petersburg take part in the fleet's 300th birthday celebrations yesterday. (Reuters)

Women work more but are paid less

GENEVA (Reuters) - Women in rich and poor countries around the world work longer hours but are paid 25 percent less than men doing the same job, the International Labor Organization (ILO) says.
And although more women were entering the global labor market, they ran a higher risk of unemployment and had had little success in mounting the ladder to top management posts, according to a new ILO report out today.
"The bottom line is that while more and more women are working, the great majority of them are simply swelling the ranks of the working poor," said the report, written by UN agency analyst Lin Lean Lim.
"Women's economic activities remain highly concentrated in low-wage, low-productivity and precarious forms on employment," she added.
The ILO said the majority of women earned about three quarters of the male wage for the same work, outside the agricultural sector and in industrialized

and emerging economies, and the gap was not decreasing.
In many richer countries, women's unemployment rates ran from 50 to 100 percent more than for men and around the world women held less than six percent of senior management posts, according to the report.
The ILO said there had been a surge of women entering the labor force in the richer countries of the North and in the poor and developing countries of the South.
Over the last decade and a half, the report indicated, the number of women taking up jobs for the first time in the 27 advanced countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) grew at more than twice the rate for men.
But in these countries - including the United States and the 15 nations of the European Union - women worked at least two hours a week more than men, and often five to 10 hours more.
In the emerging economies of East and South-East Asia, women with their relatively

cheap labor provided up to 80 percent of the work force in the export industries that had given these states their new power and competitiveness.
At the same time, said ILO Director-General Michel Hansenne in an introduction to the report, "their willingness to give up home and family to become migrant workers has greatly increased some countries' foreign exchange earnings."
The report said women had made some real gains, especially in the richer countries as well as in Latin America and the Caribbean.
US women were forming their own businesses at a greater rate than men and some developed and developing countries had passed pay equity laws.
"But relative to men, women still face unequal hiring standards, unequal opportunities for training and retraining, unequal access to productive resources, segregation and concentration in a narrow range of 'female' occupations."

Goodwill flows as floods threaten North Korea

MOON IHLWAN
SEOUL

NORTH and South Korea made rare goodwill gestures yesterday as floods threatened to wreak havoc on crops in the communist North for the second year in a row.
In the tense Korean border village of Panmunjom, Pyongyang returned remains believed to be those of a US pilot missing since the Korean War, while Seoul let a northern soldier go home after he had drifted to the South in a swollen river.
The soldier, found on Friday clinging to a log in the Imjin river and picked up by police under a bridge, had told investigators that he had accidentally reached the South and wanted to go home, Seoul officials said.
The river runs through the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone.
Seoul also said it would send government officials, businessmen and journalists to a UN-backed investment forum to be held in September in North Korea.
"Any crop damage to the North will be a blow to Pyongyang which is reeling from food shortages and an economic crisis," said Huh Moon-young, an expert on North Korea at the Research Institute for National Unification, a Seoul think-tank.
"The goodwill gestures could

help create a mood that encourages North Korea to cooperate with the West and South, which it needs to overcome its current difficulties," he said.
A report on North Korean television by Chong Yong-u, deputy director of North Korea's Central Weather Forecast Research, said there had been rain of up to 496 mm in some places in the southwest of the country since last Wednesday. The report issued a flood warning.
"During the period of July 24 to 28, relatively strong showers and torrential rain fell in Pyongyang, North and South Pyongan Provinces, North and South Hwanghae Provinces, and in the west areas in Kangwon Province," Chong said.
Last year, devastating floods in June and July inundated a substantial portion of North Korea's rice paddies, leading the country to ask for food aid from the United States, Japan and South Korea.
Washington, Tokyo and Seoul have agreed to donate \$15.2 million in response to a recent appeal by the United Nations for emergency food supplies to North Korea.
In Seoul, agricultural experts

said the rains last week were likely to have caused serious damage to crops in North Korea.
"It is quite likely that heavy rains this year have inflicted a more serious blow than the damage caused by floods last year," said Kim Woon-kom, research director of the state-funded Korea Rural Economic Institute in Seoul.
He said North Korea was due to harvest corn in late July and early August and that last week's heavy rains would have been detrimental.
Corn is an important staple in North Korea which has been suffering from a chronic shortage of rice in recent years.
In Rome, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) said yesterday it was expanding its emergency food aid operation in North Korea to feed 1.5 million people.
The agency said in a statement that the \$25.9 million operation would run until next spring and would feed victims of 1995 floods. The project would also cover children affected by food shortages.
The statement came as another Rome-based UN agency, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), said it was assessing the potential damage to this year's North Korean corn and rice harvest after torrential rains hit the country last week. (Reuters)

Spy tells how he lived in 'panicky fear'

MOSCOW (Reuters) - A Russian alleged to have spied for Britain told an interviewer in prison where he is awaiting trial that he had lived and operated in "panicky fear".
NTV station carried extracts from an interview in which a man identified as Platon Obukhov, 28, said: "Before and after each contact I vomited, I could not eat. I was in panicky fear."
It said Obukhov had been charged with "high treason in the form of espionage", an offense punishable by the death penalty, carried out with a single shot to the back of the head.
The extracts were preceded by a short interview with a man identified as Viktor Shkarin, an investigator with Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB), who said Obukhov had been detained in April and charged with espionage.
Authorities had not earlier named the man arrested and FSB officials were not immediately available to comment on the television report.
Obukhov was named last week by the newspaper Argumenty i Fakty as the man who triggered a major spy scandal earlier this year after being accused of passing information to British intelligence and said he was a foreign ministry employee.
Obukhov writes espionage thrillers on the side, he said.
"I had a very unpleasant feeling, but I could not escape," Obukhov said in the television interview. "I was doomed, I ran like a clockwork toy mouse, I ran and ran until it all ended."
Britain in May expelled four Russian diplomats after Moscow ejected four British Embassy employees Moscow accused of links to a Russian citizen who had access to classified information. The name of the alleged spy was not disclosed at the time.
NTV did not say how the British were believed to have recruited Obukhov, a second secretary in the Foreign Ministry's prestige North America Department and son of Alexei Obukhov, former Soviet deputy foreign minister and a top disarmament negotiator.
But the television mentioned "compromising material" it said had been used to recruit him about 15 months ago.
He said he earned only an equivalent of \$100 a month in the ministry but was well off through his books, such as *In the Embrace of the Spider* and *Fateful Woman*, sold at stalls in Moscow's underground passages and railway stations.

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FURTHER INFORMATION:
Mel Epstein 09-7672386, Henry Fox 052-805772,
Sid Cooper 09-441484, Arthur Stark 03-6419788.

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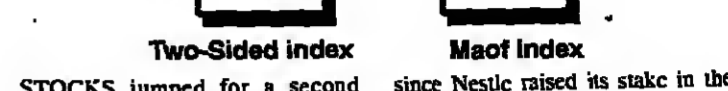
PARIS

Table of Paris stock prices for various companies.

Lower rates keep market up

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



STOCKS jumped for a second day yesterday, after the central bank said it would cut interest rates.

Africa Israel Investments led the gains; the property developer's shares leaped 10 percent, the daily limit. Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. helped fuel the rally by tacking on 1.5%.

The Two-Sided Index climbed 3.64% to 179.14, while the Maof Index added 3.71% to 189.89.

Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, NIS 91.8 million shares traded, 22% above the month's average of NIS 75.2m. More than six issues rose for every one that fell.

The rate cut "was appropriate," said David Rosenberg, head of research at Pacific Mediterranean Securities. "The main thing is that inflationary expectations have fallen considerably in the past month, which seems to be the key barometer the central bank is using."

Teva rose on NIS 8.1m. of shares traded. The drug maker's American depositary receipts, each representing 10 shares traded here, are up 1 at 33.

Rosenberg has some favorite stocks, among them Teva and Osem, which has risen 13.5% since Nestle raised its stake in the foods producer two weeks ago. Osem rose 3.25% yesterday.

Investors also haven't recognized value in Elbit, Rosenberg said. Elbit's shares traded in New York are up 1 1/2 at 15%.

Clal Electronics "is sitting at such a huge discount to its underlying asset value that it has to come up," Rosenberg said. The shares of Clal Electronics, as well as its Clal Industries affiliate, added 3.5% while parent Clal Israel rose 3%.

One he would avoid is Bezeq, which is facing increasing competition in long-distance and cellular-phone services. Bezeq rose 3% yesterday.

Among issues traded in Tel Aviv yesterday: Koor Industries jumped 2.5%; Koor subsidiary Tadiran added 2.75%; Elron soared 5.5%; American Israeli Paper Mills jumped 0.75%.

Bank Leumi jumped 6%, leading the other banks higher. First International climbed 4.75%, Bank Hapoalim rose 3.5%, and Discount Bank rose 4.25%.

Supersol moved up 3.25%. Blue Square Investments finished 3.5% higher, and Elite jumped 5.75%. (Bloomberg)

Euro bourses end mixed after nervous trading

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - European bourses, jittery after recent volatility, ended mixed yesterday and a poor opening on Wall Street did little to calm nerves.

The dollar ended its European trading session slightly down, with traders bracing for important US data in coming days for assessing interest rate moves.

London, Europe's biggest bourse, barely managed to stay on positive ground at the close after a day of thin trading with investors distracted by the upcoming US figures and the light they may throw on the health of the American economy.

"Friday's figures are going to be key in determining the interest rate trend in the US," said Richard Davidson, equity strategist at Morgan Stanley in London. "I don't think anyone is going to be doing a lot ahead of those figures."

Even before New York's weak start - it was down nearly 0.3 percent at Europe's close - European trading had been lackluster with investors unimpressed by Wall Street's strong close on Friday.

Yesterday's restrained mood contrasted with recent weeks when markets across the Atlantic tended to mirror volatile swings seen in New York, fueled largely by the ups and downs of high-technology stocks.

Frankfurt was Europe's best performer. Floor trading ended up 0.3% and computerized trading on the IBIS index showed small gains in after-hours transactions.

German stocks were lifted by Allianz, Europe's biggest insurer, which predicted double-digit profit growth this year and climbed 1% in early trade. But market volumes were thin and the mood dull.

"I expect the market to gently drift upwards this week and there's no reason for any major sell-off," said one trader.

Paris slipped in and out of positive territory for most of the day in trading that was thin because of the start of the holiday season and jitters over the US figures this week. It ended slightly down.

The dollar edged lower against the mark towards the end of the European day in which it barely moved because few traders were willing to take fresh positions in advance of the week's US economic indicators.

Traders were trying to guess how US interest rates will be affected by the data which start rolling today with July consumer confidence and reach a climax on Friday with the influential US non-farm payrolls and unemployment data.

The decision by US monetary policy-makers not to raise interest rates at their last meeting has been thrown into question by recent figures showing strong employment.

Dow falls in slowest trading of the year

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Stocks closed lower in the slowest trading of the year yesterday as investors awaited this week's slew of economic data that could decide whether the Federal Reserve raises interest rates.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended down 38.47 points at 5,434.59, and the Nasdaq Composite Index fell 13.01 points to 1,066.43.

In the broader market, declining issues heat advances 2-1 on volume of 282 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table of currency cross-rates for various currencies including Sterling, Yen, Sfr, and FF.

THIS WEEK'S BRIEFS

from US partner receive \$75m. fund

MONEY MARKET

MARKET

Friedman wins bronze medal

Lewis jumps into finals; Syrian wins heptathlon

Post Sports Staff and agencies

WINDSURFER Gal Friedman became Israel's third Olympic medalist yesterday by capturing the bronze medal in the Mistral event in Savannah.



Bronze medalist Gal Friedman does a nation proud. (Sari Heim)

Ghada Shouaa triumphed in the heptathlon, winning Syria's first gold medal in the 100-year history of the Olympic Games.

night's finals when he unleashed a final leap of 8.29m that catapulted him from 15th place to first among the qualifiers.

Shearer to Newcastle for record £15m

NEWCASTLE (AP) - England international Alan Shearer, the top scorer in the Premier League who also netted five in last month's European Championship, is moving from Blackburn to Newcastle on a record £15-million transfer.

the five-year deal immediately made Newcastle the No. 3 favorite to win the Premier League behind two-time defending champion Manchester United and Liverpool.

United on August 11. Newcastle director Russell Jones said: "Perhaps people will now realize why we need a 75,000-seater stadium," referring to Newcastle's plans to move from their current St James' Park home to a new venue.

Mushtaq, Waqar sweep Pakistan to victory

LONDON (Reuters) - Mushtaq Ahmed and Waqar Younis produced an irresistible combination of wrist-spin and swing bowling to sweep Pakistan to a 164-run victory over England in the first Test at Lord's yesterday.

England-Pakistan 1st Test, Pakistan first innings 340 (Inzamam-ul-Haq 148, Saeed Anwar 74)

Lasorda set to quit LA helm

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Tom Lasorda, who underwent heart surgery last month, was reportedly ready to announce his retirement yesterday after nearly 20 years as the Los Angeles Dodgers' manager.

within a run in the ninth, hitting a grand slam off Eddie Guardado for his first career home run. It was the 13th career at-bat for Pozo, who won Saturday's game with a three-run triple in the ninth.

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Histadrut to declare labor dispute

MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Histadrut is to declare a nationwide labor dispute on Thursday as a prelude to a general strike, in workplaces whose workers are, according to the labor federation, under government threat of privatization, dismissal, and infringement of wage agreements.

Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz claimed at a gathering of the large workers' unions yesterday that in addition to the economic measures proposed so far, the government intends to impose taxes on the pension funds and workers' study funds.

The unions resolved to fight the government's economic program and the plan to affect the pension and study funds, "whose taxation constitutes an unequivocal violation of the collective wage agreement, and all that implies," Peretz said.

Since the last strike two weeks ago, the Histadrut says it has received considerable information on the government's intentions to privatize corporations, including ports, airports, oil refineries, hospitals, and even military units.

Union leaders updated the Histadrut on plans to separate the Haifa and Ashdod oil refineries and the ports, as the first step

toward privatization. The IDF civilian workers' union spoke of warnings from the Treasury and defense authorities that units employing mostly civilians would be privatized.

Nurses' union head Ilana Cohen said Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi informed her of his intention to privatize three state hospitals.

"This means creating one health service for the rich and another for the poor. The state hospitals now have large deficits because the National Health Insurance Law cannot cover the costs. Once some hospitals are privatized, the rich will get good medical services, while the poor will have to go to the state hospitals, which will not be able to provide adequate treatment," she said.

Peretz and the unions decided, after facing legal actions against the warning strike earlier this month, to plan their moves carefully and declare a nationwide labor dispute first.

On Thursday, the Histadrut's coordination and implementation committee is due to approve a long list of labor disputes, which will enable the unions to take action in response to any moves by the government.



Catie McArton (right), of Winnipeg, Canada, teaches campers in Gan Yavne how to play hockey. McArton is one of over 500 English-speaking counselors that the Education Ministry, Jewish Agency, and Israel Association of Community Centers brought here this summer to work at camps around the country. (Debbie Taylor-Zimelman)

WEATHER

Colen 20-30

Hafia 23-31

Tiberias 24-32

Afula 29-33

Samarra 21-31

Tel Aviv 24-30

Jerusalem 21-30

BeerSheva 23-34

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Forecast: Slightly cooler.

AROUND THE WORLD

	C	F	C	F	Cloudy
Amsterdam	12	54	18	64	cloudy
Beijing	14	57	24	75	clear
Buenos Aires	19	66	19	66	cloudy
Chicago	23	73	24	75	rain
Copenhagen	15	59	18	64	cloudy
Frankfurt	18	64	20	68	cloudy
Geneva	18	64	20	68	cloudy
Helsinki	11	52	17	63	rain
Hong Kong	28	82	31	88	rain
Jakarta	27	81	27	81	clear
Jeddah	32	90	31	88	clear
London	17	63	21	70	clear
Los Angeles	20	68	21	70	clear
Madrid	20	68	21	70	clear
Moscow	15	59	20	68	cloudy
Mumbai	28	82	29	84	cloudy
New York	18	64	21	70	cloudy
Paris	18	64	20	68	cloudy
Rome	20	68	21	70	cloudy
Sydney	11	52	17	63	cloudy
Tokyo	19	66	21	70	cloudy
Toronto	12	54	22	72	cloudy
Winnipeg	12	54	22	72	cloudy
Zurich	18	64	21	70	rain

Traffic supervisor to High Court: Close Rehov Bar-Ilan during prayer hours

CLOSING Rehov Bar-Ilan during prayer times represents an appropriate compromise between the conflicting interests of the religious and secular communities, Supervisor of Traffic Alex Langer told the High Court of Justice yesterday.

Langer's affidavit was submitted in response to three petitions against the partial closure, by MKs Daphi Pines (Labor) and Yossi Sarid (Meretz) and Labor activist Lior Horev. The court has already issued a show-cause order on the petitions.

Langer told the court that he decided to close Rehov Bar-Ilan during prayer times - 2½ hours Friday night, four hours Saturday morning and 3½ hours Saturday evening - for four months, during which time the closure's effects will be studied.

This decision is possible, he said, because traffic on Bar-Ilan is very light on Shabbat anyway. According to the Sturm Committee, set up by the Jerusalem Municipality to study the issue, Shabbat traffic on Bar-Ilan is only about 12 percent of what it is on weekdays.

Furthermore, he said, reasonable alternative routes exist to and from all places in the city. Bypassing the closed section of the road would require traveling only an extra 1.5 kilometers and add a mere two minutes to the travel time, he said.

Langer said that when he originally told the city of Jerusalem, in 1994, that a partial closure of Bar-Ilan was "inconceivable," he was thinking purely in terms of traffic considerations, while ignoring all other considerations.

EVELYN GORDON

However, he said, both Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy and President Ezer Weizman made him aware that the injury his decision had caused to the religious sensibilities of the haredim - who constitute more than 90% of the area's inhabitants - was extremely deep.

The ministry's legal adviser, he added, told him this was a factor he was allowed to take into account. "I went and reconsidered my previous position... (and I thought): Is the decision not to close Rehov Bar-Ilan really the only acceptable decision?" he wrote.

He concluded that a partial closure, for a four-month trial period,

would represent the proper balance between the haredim's desire for total closure and the secular desire for no closure at all, he said.

Langer said this decision does not violate the right to freedom of movement any more than a one-way street does: Drivers can reach the places they want, but not by a particular route.

He recommended closing the street for longer on Friday and Saturday nights than did the Sturm Committee; he added, because he thought it would be better to have fixed times for the closure, rather than having the times change each week according to when Shabbat begins and ends. He therefore set the times to encompass the earliest and the latest Shabbats within the four-month trial period.

Langer also rejected the petitioners' charge that the decision was made without consulting either secular representatives or Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. Olmert's position was known, he said, as the mayor had already

approved the Sturm Committee recommendations, and the positions of the secular activists were also known through their testimony to the Sturm Committee. None of the arguments raised in the petition, he said, were in any way new to him.

Meanwhile, a haredi association filed its own petition to the High Court yesterday, demanding that the road be closed for all of Shabbat, rather than only during prayer times.

The petition, filed by the Association for the Preservation of the Rights of the Religious and Haredi Community in Israel, argued that since almost the entire population of Rehov Bar-Ilan is haredi, and relatively few secular people use the road on Shabbat, leaving the road open causes great damage to the many in order to avoid minor inconvenience to the few.

Attorney Gershon Holtzer, who filed the petition, noted that there are precedents for closing other "major arteries" on Shabbat, such as Rehov Dizengoff in Tel Aviv.

Postal Authority destroyed Likud flyers

THE Postal Authority destroyed at least 100,000 Likud campaign flyers, though the action was not politically motivated, but simply the result of managerial errors, a committee reported to Communications Minister Limor Livnat yesterday.

Livnat appointed the committee last week following an article by *Ma'ariv* investigative reporter Ronel Fisher on the topic. Livnat presented the committee's conclusions to Postal Authority Chairman Amos Mar-Haim yesterday morning.

The committee's findings upheld Fisher's report that the unaddressed flyers, which the Postal Authority was to put into mailboxes before the elections, were never delivered. Livnat noted that Postal Authority Director-General Ran Levin had been uncooperative during the investigation and that "it is unacceptable to me that an organization suspected of mismanagement organizes an independent investigation and uses a polygraph to frighten its managers."

She expressed her faith in the postal workers, saying the incident will not harm the authority. Livnat also praised the committee for its quick work.

Winning cards

IN yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, jack of hearts, jack of diamonds, and jack of clubs.

Ethiopian immigrants slam Navon Committee

LIAT COLLINS

IN a stormy and emotional meeting of the Knesset's Immigration and Absorption Committee yesterday, representatives of the Ethiopian immigrant community told MKs of their disappointment with the results of the commission of inquiry led by former president Yitzhak Navon into the Magen David Adom blood bank affair.

MK Adisu Massala (Labor) and other immigrants said they felt their blood was still being spilled and called again for the resignation of MDA blood services director Amnon Ben-David.

The committee heard some of the recommendations of the Navon Committee but postponed a decision on adopting them until the members had time to study the report in depth. The only recommendation praised by both sides was the decision that blood donors would be told on an individual basis whether their blood could be used. Until now, there has been a blanket refusal to use blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants, unless it was of a very rare type.

Dr. Eilat Shenbar, a blood bank official, said some of the recommendations are impractical. The health ministry officials said the Navon Committee had not understood the degree of risk posed by the high incidence of AIDS among the newcomers.

The immigrants said they were being singled out and had suffered as a result of the affair. The immigrant representatives spoke of kindergarten teachers refusing to treat scrapes and scratches and the fears that wounded soldiers would not be treated.

Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) called on the authorities to allow for greater involvement by the community in deciding on issues affecting it, to which a Health Ministry official said: "They have to learn first."

The official was later forced to apologize after Massala and others accused him of being patronizing to the Ethiopian immigrants. Navon called for more information campaigns in Amharic. Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said he is still studying the report.

MK Poraz stands up for rottweiler dogs

MK Avraham Poraz (Meretz) has asked Interior Minister Eli Suissa not to endorse a bylaw of the Ramat Hasharon Municipality, which bans local residents from owning rottweiler dogs.

Poraz said the law is unenforceable because of the numbers of mixed breed or non-pedigree rottweilers that would not be covered by the bylaw. He also protested the singling out of a particular breed.

"There's no such thing as bad dogs; there are bad owners," Poraz said.

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